



# County of Los Angeles CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICE

Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration  
500 West Temple Street, Room 713, Los Angeles, California 90012  
(213) 974-1101  
<http://ceo.lacounty.gov>

WILLIAM T FUJIOKA  
Chief Executive Officer

November 8, 2012

To: Supervisor Zev Yaroslavsky, Chairman  
Supervisor Gloria Molina  
Supervisor Mark Ridley-Thomas  
Supervisor Don Knabe  
Supervisor Michael D. Antonovich

From: William T Fujioka  
Chief Executive Officer

Board of Supervisors  
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Second District

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Third District

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Fifth District

## **EXTENSION REQUEST - LOS ANGELES COUNTY DISASTER RECOVERY DATA CENTER (ITEM 10, AGENDA OF MAY 15, 2012)**

On May 15, 2012, your Board, on motion of Supervisor Knabe, instructed the Chief Executive Office (CEO), in conjunction with the Chief Information Officer (CIO) and the Director of the Internal Services Department (ISD), to:

1. Report back within 30 days with a preliminary report on a recommended site, cost estimates, expedited project timeline and funding or financing approach to create a County disaster recovery center to be used by all County departments;
2. Explore other options outside of constructing a facility, i.e., a "cloud"; analyzing how the County might achieve economies-of-scale, and easier manageability and maintenance, while ensuring a secure environment for the County's critical data;
3. Include in the report operational and energy efficiencies, cost savings and/or cost avoidance associated with the project; and
4. Develop directives and policies needed to implement a County Disaster Recovery Center.

We provided the Board with status reports on June 18 and August 22, 2012. This memorandum requests a 60 day extension on the next status report due in late November, 2012. The additional time is required to refine cost estimates and develop a final recommendation for a countywide disaster recovery (DR) data center solution.

*"To Enrich Lives Through Effective And Caring Service"*

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## **UPDATE OF CURRENT ACTIVITIES**

Since our last status report, County staff (ISD, CIO, and CEO) worked closely with outside seismic experts to assess locations for a secondary DR data center site. The experts evaluated the probability that a single event (e.g., earthquake, fire, flood, etc.) could disable both the planned Downey data center and each proposed secondary DR data center site. Possible DR sites included the Fairplex complex in Pomona, the ISD Eastern Avenue warehouse in East Los Angeles, the Mira Loma/High Desert complex in Lancaster, an ISD Telecommunications site in Pacoima, and the existing Local Recovery Center in Santa Ana, where ISD now leases data center space from Orange County.

For all the sites we reviewed, the experts found a low level of risk that a single seismic event would render both the primary and secondary data centers inoperable. That is, when each proposed DR site is evaluated in tandem with the Downey data center, each site (including any proposed building modifications) would achieve the experts' target level of risk of less than 1% of simultaneous operational failure during a 50 year period. After addressing this essential risk threshold, the team is now evaluating other major considerations, including long-term cost and operating efficiency for each site. We expect to complete the analysis within 60 days.

The County team is also working on other critical components of this analysis:

- CIO is performing an assessment of departmental systems to identify the criticality of their recovery following a disaster.
- ISD and CIO are continuing discussions with outside experts regarding industry best practices for DR planning.
- ISD continues to investigate the potential use of the cloud for tertiary data storage and tape backup solutions.
- CIO has prepared a draft directive on server virtualization and consolidation, which is a necessary step toward efficient disaster recovery.

We will continue to keep your Board informed. By late January 2013, we will provide the Board with a recommendation for a scalable DR data center solution.

If you have any questions regarding this matter, please contact Ellen Sandt at (213) 974-1186 or [esandt@ceo.lacounty.gov](mailto:esandt@ceo.lacounty.gov)

WTF:EFS:TT  
JJ:ef

c:     Executive Office, Board of Supervisors  
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